Applicant: James A. Laugharn, Jr. et al.

Serial No.: 09/530,478 Filed: April 28, 2000

Page : 2 of 6

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1-5. (Withdrawn).
- 6-8. (Cancelled).
- 9. (Withdrawn).
- 10. (Cancelled).
- 11. (Withdrawn).
- 12. (Cancelled).
- 13-17. (Withdrawn).
- 18-58. (Cancelled).
- 59-67. (Withdrawn).
- 68. (Cancelled).
- 69-71. (Withdrawn).
- 72. (Currently amended) A method of releasing molecules from cells, the method comprising:

exposing the cells to an elevated, isostatic pressure of at least 500 psi in a pressure chamber to form lysed cells;

whereby the molecules are released from the lysed cells within the pressure chamber.

s Docket No.: 07985-012002

- 73. (Original) The method of claim 72, further comprising cycling the pressure between the elevated pressure and ambient pressure at least twice.
 - 74. (Cancelled).
- 75. (Original) The method of claim 72, wherein the pressure is raised to its final value in less than 1 second.
- 76. (Original) The method of claim 72, wherein the pressure is raised to its final value in less than 0.1 second.



Applicant: James A. Laugharn, Jr. et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 07985-012002

Serial No.: 09/530,478 Filed: April 28, 2000

Page : 3 of 6

77. (Cancelled).

- 78. (Original) The method of claim 72, further comprising returning the cells to ambient pressure.
- 79. (Original) The method of claim 72, further comprising purifying the molecules, at least partially, within the pressure chamber.
- 80. (Original) The method of claim 79, wherein the molecules are purified by elution with a flowing solvent, electrophoresis, electroosmosis, selective absorption to an absorptive medium, filtration, differential sedimentation, volatilization, distillation, gas chromatography, or precipitation.
 - 81. (Cancelled).
- 82. (Original) The method of claim 72, wherein the cells are selected from the group consisting of yeast, bacteria, fungi, animal cells, plant cells, insect cells, and protozoan cells.
- 83. (Original) The method of claim 78, wherein the cells are returned to ambient pressure in 1 second or less.
- 84. (Original) The method of claim 78, wherein the cells are returned to ambient pressure in 0.1 second or less.
 - 85-90. (Cancelled).
- 91. (Currently Amended) A method of isolating a biological component from a liquid sample, the method comprising:

Applicant: James A. Laugharn, Jr. et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 07985-012002

Serial No.: 09/530,478 Filed: April 28, 2000

Page : 4 of 6

exposing the sample to an elevated, <u>isostatic</u> pressure in a pressure chamber, the elevated, <u>isostatic</u> pressure being sufficient to maintain the sample in a liquid state at a subzero temperature;

while maintaining the elevated, <u>isostatic</u> pressure, reducing the temperature of the sample to the subzero temperature; and

while maintaining the elevated, isostatic pressure and the subzero temperature, isolating the biological component from the sample.

92. (Original) The method of claim 91, wherein the subzero temperature is about - 20°C or higher, and the elevated pressure is between about 28 psi and 75,000 psi.

93-95. (Withdrawn).

96. (Cancelled).

97. (Withdrawn).

98. (Currently Amended) A method for the isolation of molecules from cells, the method comprising:

exposing the cells to a temperature of at least 45°C and an isostatic pressure of at least 500 psi in a pressure chamber to form lysed cells; and

separating the molecules from the lysed cells within the pressure chamber.

99. (Original) The method of claim 98, wherein the temperature is in the range of about 50°C to about 90°C.

100-102. (Withdrawn).